Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer of the Minister to the question of my hon. Friend from Coimbatore, may I ask specifically whether it is open to volunteers, Congress or otherwise, to stand about a hundred yards, from a toddy or arrack shop and dissuade people who go there and point out the evils of drink? I say it is a peaceful and legitimate means. In that case, will the Government or the Minister representing the Government, without being tutored by the hon. the Finance Member, give an undertaking that they won't prohibit such peaceful and legitimate picketting?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I request the hon. Member to put his question in a form which is not hypothetical."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government will or will not prohibit an assembly of Congress or other volunteers before toddy or arrack shops using all peaceful and legitimate means in order to dissuade people from going to drink?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If such assembly does not disturb the public peace and if it does not offend against any other law, the Government won't prevent it."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the auctions held by Collectors of districts, will the Government prohibit any peaceful persuasion by Congress or other volunteers telling the prospective bidders not to bid at the auction and thereby encouraging the habit of temperance among the people?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is open to any citizen of the State to go and dissuade his neighbour from bidding at the auction, and if it is peacefully done, the Government will not interfere."

Report of the Committee on the consumption of opium in East Godavari district.

* 566 Q.—Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed on the report submitted by the Committee of Enquiry on excessive consumption of opium in East Godavari district in April 1928; and

(*b*) whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to place the report of the Enquiry Committee on the table? In answer to question (*b*) asking for a copy, the answer is 'Does not arise.' I am only asking for a copy?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The report of the Committee along with the orders passed thereon will be placed on the table as soon as possible."